of loss of lives and damage to property due to floods in Purulia district are as under :—

No. of persons affected	80,000
No. of human lives lost	15
Damage to crops	6453 ha.
No of houses damaged	4227
Livestock lost	519 cattle heads 1505 goats/sheeps 6774 ducks/poultry birds
Public property damaged	Railway bridge, roads, culverts and water supply systems of Purulia Town.

(b) and (c) The State Government is required to undertake relief measures using the corpus of the Calamity Relief Fund allotted to the State. The State Government has not sought any additional Central assistance for relief measures in Purulia district.

Agricultural Universities in Maharashtra

754. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the thrust areas of ICAR and Agricultural Universities of research and development in Agriculture, particularly for high yielding varieties of main crops and oil seeds during Eighth Plan;

(b) the details of outstanding/significant achievements during the last five years and programmes during the Eighth Plan;

(c) the proposals received by ICAR from the Agricultural Universities in Maharashtra and proposals cleared with estimated cost and other details proposal-wise during the current year;

(d) the number of proposals pending and the reasons therefor proposal-wise; and

(e) the steps being taken to expedite approval of proposals received from state Agriculture Universities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) and (b) As a result of concerted efforts during the last five years a number of high yielding varieties/hybrids including 192 in cereals, 74 in oilseeds, 21 pulses, 30 in commercial crops, 16 in forage crops and 33 in horticultural crops were released/identified. Success has been achieved in developing cross breed animals-cattle strains for milk sheep for wool and meat production and in increasing productivity of fish ponds. In the VIII plan greater thrust is being given on hybrid research, production of breeder seeds, conservation of germplasm and development of superior varieties resistant to biotic and abiotic stresses etc.

(c) Fourteen Research proposals have been received by ICAR from Universities in Maharashtra, out of which 6 have been cleared. The estimated expenditure is Rs. 33,53,600. The details of the schemes are given in statement I. (*See* below).

(d) Eight schemes are under various stages of consideration. Details are geven in statement-II (*See* below).

(e) Steps are being taken by the Council for expediting processing of the schemes by small relevant expert groups.

Statement-I

Details of Proposals cleared

S. No.	Name of Proposal	Sponsoring Authority	Amount
1.	Studies on Agro-mateorology for Konkan Region in Maharashtra.	K.K.V. Dapoli	Rs. 4,64,000/-
2.	Research on Soil & Water Conservating in Laterite soils of Konkan Region.	K.K.V. Dapoli	Rs. 3,99,000/-
3.	Breeding for improvement of diploid desi cotton.	M.A.U. Parbhani	Rs. 14,47,000/-
4.	Craft paper from cotton stalks for use in the production of corrugated fibre board boxes for packaging of fruits.	C.T.R.L. Bombay.	Rs. 5,70,000/-
5.	Floriculture improvement in the Konkan Region.	K.K.V.V. Dapoli	Rs. 3,41,600/-
6.	Software development for groundwater movement.	M.A.U. Parbhani	Rs. 1,32,000/-

Statement-II

Details of Proposals pending

S. No.	Name of Proposal	Sponsoring Authority	Remarks
1	2	3	4
1.	Performance of Bamboo under Konkan conditions.	K.K.V., Dapoli	Recommended by Scientific Panel Under Process for sanction.
2.	Survey, collection, evaluation genetic improvement and seed orchard development in *Hard-wickie binata* and Molia azeda-rach using conventional and biotechnological approach.	M. P.K.V.V. Rathuri	Just received on 11th Nov., 92.
3.	Soil and Water conservation research training and demo.	K.K.V. Dapoli	The proposal in proper form has been received on 28-8-92. It has been sent to referees whose comments are awaited.
4.	Evaluation of Nitrogen assimilation enzymes and tolerant strains of pesticide treated *cynobacteria*.	Jai Hind College Dhule.	Included in the agenda for consideration by the Scientific Committee in the meeting to be held on 9-12-92.
5.	Production on spineless variety in safflower (*Carthemus tinctorius*) by mutaganizing seeds.	Nagpur University	The scheme is under process and shall be considered in next meeting of scientific panel for Plant Breeding and Genetics. Estimated Expenditure Rs. 3,25,600

1	2	3	4
6.	Cytomorphological studies in ber cultivars.	M.P.A.U. Rahuri.	The Scheme received on 14-8-92 is pending with ICAR as the Scientific Panel deferred the scheme for want of more desire information.
7.	Hydrological studies in Agricultural Watershed.	M.P.A.U. Rahuri.	Proposal received on 23-9-92 is being processed for consideration of Scientific Panel.
8.	Evaporatively Cooled Storage for some Fruits, Vegetables.	P.K.V. Akola	Considered by the Scientific Panel and revised proposal awaited.

Production of Agro-based items by NDDB

755. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) that in the light of successful operation of production of milk and milk products and edible oil by NDDB whether Government would encourage NDDB to undertake production of other consumer agro-based items to help farming community in the Western Region of the country;

(b) if so, the details of proposal under consideration of Government to involve NDDB in agro-based production programme in the states of Western Region and Maharashtra State in particular; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) to (c) It is already provided in the National Dairy Development Board Act, 1987 (No. 37 of 1987) that it shall be the duty and function of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) to promote plan and organise programmes for the purposes of development of dairy and other agriculture based and allied industries and biologicals on an intensive and nation-wide basis and to render assistance in the implementation of such programmes. The Government of Maharashtra has requested the NDDB to implement a Fruit and Vegetable Project in Bombay.

Seed Farms under National Seeds Corporation

756. DR. ABRAR AHMED :

SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of seed farms which are functioning at present under the National Seeds Corporation Ltd.;

(b) what are the details of profit/losses incurred by each of the farm during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) if any farm is running into losses, the reasons therefor and how Government propose to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The number of seed farms run by National Seeds Corporation (NSC) are as under :—

(i) Sainj Farm, Solan (H.P.).

(ii) Kathaganahally Farm, Bangalore (Karnataka).

(iii) Thangadencha Farm, Nandikotkur, Kurnool District (A.P.).